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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6777

BILL NUMBER: SB 326

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 2, 2009

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Optional Four-Day School Week Calendar.

FIRST AUTHOR: Sen. Walker

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill allows a school corporation to adopt a four-day school week (144-day school year) if the student instructional day is lengthened so that the amount of instructional time provided is equivalent to that provided in a 180-day school year. The bill provides a formula for reducing the amount of August tuition support for a school corporation that has adopted a 144-day school year and fails to conduct 144 days.

Effective Date: July 1, 2009.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The impact would depend on the number of schools that elect the 144-instructional-day option instead of the current 180-day requirement but might not meet the required 144 instructional days and therefore have their August tuition support reduced. The reduction would probably be minor. Only one school in the last several years has had their tuition support reduced for not meeting the required number of days.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: The bill would allow schools to modify the school calendar from the current 180-day minimum school year containing 5-hour days for grades K-6 and 6-hour days for grades 7-12 to a calendar with 144 instructional days containing 6 1/4-hour days for grades K-6 and 7 1/2-hour days for grades 7-12. (Both calendars provide for 900 instructional hours for grades K-6 and 1,080 instructional hours for grades 7-12.)

The bill could reduce local school expenditures depending if a school chooses the 144 instructional days in

the school calendar. Schools spent about \$2.8M per day to transport students to school during the 2008 school year. The possible savings on transportation would be \$100.8 M if all schools choose the 144-day option. Schools might also have reduced utilities and school lunch expenditures if the number of days are reduced.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: Local schools.

Information Sources: Department of Education databases.

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